United Nations A/68/92

General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 June 2013

Original: English

Sixty-eighth session
Item 136 of the preliminary list*
Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015

Implementation of projects financed from the Development Account: eighth progress report

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/237, in which the Assembly reiterated its decision to continue to keep the implementation of the Development Account under review. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in its reports at the fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions of the General Assembly, recommended that the report of the Secretary-General be submitted in the context of the presentation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium concerned.

The present report provides information on the underlying policy framework, reviews the progress made and the results achieved in the implementation of projects funded from the Development Account since the seventh progress report (A/66/84), as well as an update on the management and oversight of the Account.

The Development Account remains an instrumental capacity development funding facility for the United Nations Secretariat in a highly dynamic development environment. Its distinct operational profile offers developing countries the opportunity to access the full range of development knowledge and expertise of the United Nations Secretariat, which helps countries design and implement strategies towards sustainable, equitable and inclusive development (the theme of the ninth tranche of the Development Account). The Account's programming approach encourages a vast range of strongly collaborative partnerships, both across the implementing entities and with national stakeholders. The overall portfolio of the Account has reached 302 projects, with 118 that are in progress (sixth, seventh and eighth tranches) and 46 that are being presented to the General Assembly for its consideration as part of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 (A/68/6 (Sect. 35)).

* A/68/50.

13-35919 (E) 240613

Please recycle

I. Introduction

1. The purpose of the present report is to inform Member States of the performance of the Development Account. The report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/237, by which the Assembly reiterated its earlier decision to continue to keep the implementation of the Development Account under review and requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the subject. Subsequently, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended that the report of the Secretary-General be submitted in the context of the presentation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium concerned.

2. The General Assembly decided to establish the Development Account in 1997 in its resolution 52/12 B, as a mechanism to fund capacity development projects of the economic and social entities of the United Nations (Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Economic and Social Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC)).[1] Projects financed from the Account are aimed at achieving development impact through building the socioeconomic capacity of developing countries through collaboration at the national, subregional, regional and interregional levels. The projects also seek to ensure effective follow-up to the United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social areas and serve as an operational extension to the normative and analytical work of the implementing entities.

3. The current report provides an update on the performance and management of the Development Account since the issuance of the seventh progress report (A/66/84). Further details on individual projects are available on the website of the Development Account (www.un.org/esa/devaccount), providing information on both general and project-specific achievements, and a repository of all previous progress reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly.

4. A summary overview of the nine tranches that comprise the Development Account as at April 2013 is included at annex I to the present report.

II. Current policy context

5. This section provides an overview of the policy framework underlying the Development Account, highlights the continuous relevance of the Account throughout changing policy contexts, and outlines its uniqueness from an operational standpoint and main characteristics of the support it provides to developing countries.

[1] Annex I to the present report (Summary of Development Account tranches as at 30 April 2013), sets out the relevant General Assembly resolutions prescribing the funding and use of the Account. In addition to the resolutions identified in annex I, specific policies and criteria for the use of the Development Account are included in resolutions 54/15 and 56/237.

Relevance of the Development Account in an evolving development environment

6. The development agenda and guidance provided by Member States for the United Nations capacity development activities has continually evolved since the Development Account was created in 1997. The major conferences and summits of the United Nations including, more recently, the World Summit (New York, 2005); the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (Mauritius, 2005); the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Accra, 2008); the United Nations Summit on the Millennium Development Goals (New York, 2010); the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (Istanbul, 2011); and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio de Janeiro, 2012), represent key milestones which govern this evolving environment. Through its resolution 67/226 on the 2012 quadrennial comprehensive policy review, the General Assembly has provided policy guidance on the strategic orientations for capacity development activities and proposed improvements for the United Nations system delivery of capacity development. This includes assigning highest priority to poverty eradication and strengthening national capacities towards its achievement; mainstreaming sustainable development; supporting countries on inclusive, equitable, participatory, transparent and accountable national processes, substantially increasing the focus on gender equality and empowerment of women; and furthering support to South-South and triangular cooperation.

7. The Development Account has been responsive to this dynamic environment, establishing specific themes to guide the programming and implementation of the Account in each tranche (see annex I) and encouraging demand-driven approaches that address beneficiary countries' priorities, drawing from the guidance from intergovernmental processes in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, including through its functional and regional commissions. The ability of the Account to address current priorities and needs of target countries is demonstrated systematically through the outcomes of the projects. In building statistical capacity in South-East Asia, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, for example, focused on a number of low-income countries whose national statistical systems were suffering from lack of resources and poor coordination among institutes with statistical responsibilities (Project AF (2006-2007) Department of Economic and Social Affairs). The project has been critical in establishing and consolidating a sound network of statisticians who can foster the exchange of experiences in the region over time. Development Account projects are formulated based on specific government requests for support from the implementing entities, with project ideas often being put forth in follow-up to previous Development Account efforts and/or assistance provided through the Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation or extrabudgetary funding. In a number of cases, the projects included in the present report have led to demand for follow-up assistance, such as in the case of the projects on Sub-Saharan National Economic and Social Councils (Project AH (2006-2007) Department of Economic and Social Affairs), trade competitiveness (Project B (2008-2009) ECE), and sustainable resource management (Project AK (2006-2007) UNEP). The ability of the implementing entities to respond to development priorities is facilitated by the Account's unique funding architecture, which is both unearmarked and predictable, as compared to extrabudgetary funding. This allows for funds to be channelled and

efforts to be tailored by the implementing entities to meet the needs of the beneficiary countries.

Unique operational profile of the Development Account

8. The Development Account, together with the Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation, provides funding for the operational activities for development of the economic and social entities of the United Nations. By building capacity on three levels, namely: (a) the individual; (b) the organizational; and (c) the enabling environment, the Development Account becomes a supportive vehicle for advancing the implementation of internationally agreed development goals and the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits. While the Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation provides a short-term, flexible response mechanism to assist Member States with urgent issues, the Development Account adopts a medium- to longer-term approach in helping countries to better integrate social, economic and environmental policies and strategies in order to achieve inclusive and sustained economic growth, poverty eradication, and sustainable development. While spanning across a number of regions and thematic clusters (paras. 12-13 below), the Account often adopts a pilot approach to test new ideas that can be scaled up with supplementary funding. These additional funds are received, as projects unfold, from an array of partners (para. 17 below), including the beneficiary countries themselves that recognize the importance of the capacity development efforts and internalize the projects' processes. While policy changes evidently cannot be attributed to the Development Account alone, Governments' buy-in to the outcomes of Development Account's efforts, provide an indication of the catalytic role that the Development Account can have. The Government of the Lao's People Democratic Republic, for example, included the Poverty Economic Initiative principles in the country's Seventh National Socioeconomic Development Plan, following UNEP efforts to mainstream multilateral agreements into national poverty reduction strategies (Project R (2008-2009) UNEP). Likewise, following UN-Habitat's capacity development efforts in localizing the Millennium Development Goals at the urban and municipal levels, 10 municipalities in Cuba formulated policies on economic and social development (Project T (2008-2009) UN-Habitat). In El Salvador, the reviews of the Science Technology and Innovation Policy, supported by UNCTAD, fed into the elaboration of national industrial and innovation policies. In Peru and the Dominican Republic, the reviews contributed to national discussions on Science Technology and Innovation Policy design and management (Project AC (2008-2009) UNCTAD).

Access to development knowledge and partnerships

9. The Development Account provides a mechanism for promoting the exchange and transfer of skills, knowledge and good practices among target countries within and between different geographic regions, and through cooperation with a wide range of partners in the broader development assistance community (para. 14 below). The Account provides a bridge between in-country capacity development actors, on the one hand, and United Nations Secretariat entities, on the other. The latter offer distinctive skills and competencies in a broad range of economic and social issues that are often only marginally dealt with by other development partners at the country level. For target countries, the Development Account provides a vehicle to tap into the normative and analytical expertise of the United Nations Secretariat and receive

ongoing policy support in the economic and social area, particularly in areas where such expertise does not reside in the capacities of the United Nations country teams.

III. Performance of the Development Account: overview, assessment of achievements and results

10. This section provides an overview of the performance of the Development Account — an assessment of 42 projects from sixth tranche (27 projects), sixth tranche A (5 projects) and fifth tranche B (10 projects).[2] Paragraphs 14 to 21 below provide a thematic review of the sixth tranche projects for which final reports and/or external evaluation reports were available at the time of drafting the present report, referred to as the "reviewed projects". Reviewed projects account for approximately two thirds of the sixth tranche projects, with a total of 30 final reports and 26 evaluation reports analysed. All preceding tranches of the Development Account have been reported upon in previous progress reports. Annex II, Update on the status of the sixth, seventh and eighth tranches: implementation rates, includes details on all active projects as at 30 April 2013.

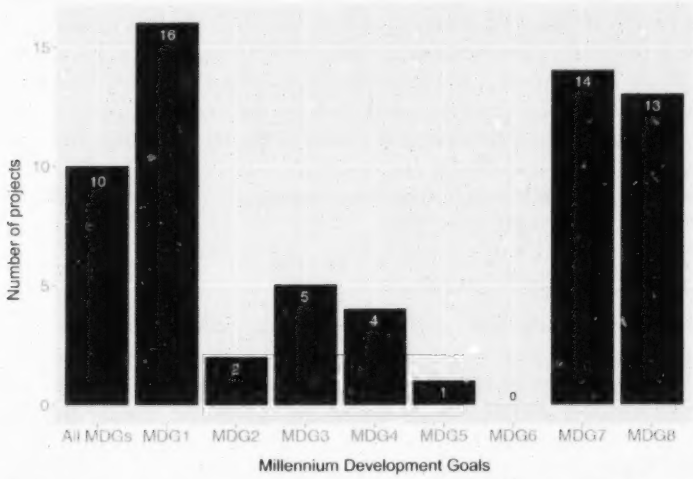
Overall theme for the sixth tranche projects

11. The overall theme guiding the projects under the sixth tranche of the Development Account was the implementation of internationally agreed development goals through innovation, networking and knowledge management. All the projects were formulated around the internationally agreed development goals and assisted countries in pursuing national policies which promote sustainable development. In accordance with the theme, knowledge management, networking and innovation have been important drivers of the projects, and have resulted in projects with innovative knowledge sharing among the stakeholders of a given community of knowledge. A series of networks were, for instance, established to measure the extent of violence against women, resulting in strengthening the work relations between users and producers of data in this field, while supporting progress towards the development of evidence-based public policies against such forms of violence (Project C (2008-2009) ECLAC). Similarly, a United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (UNNExT) was established, and has been expanding considerably since, to promote trade competitiveness through single window facilities (Project D (2008-2009) ESCAP). The network of global experts who were pooled together to help Governments assess their National Development Strategies (Project J (2008-2009) Department of Economic and Social Affairs), or the whole range of national collaborations that were sought for the production of biodiversity indicators, including government agencies, non-governmental organizations and academic groups (Project Q (2008-2009) UNEP), are additional examples of the ways in which Development Account projects have embodied the theme of the sixth tranche. The Millennium Development Goals continued to be an important element of Development Account programming, with projects providing support to countries on both measuring progress and developing policies for their achievement. Millennium Development Goal 1, Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, Millennium Development Goal 7,

[2] Referred to as the sixth tranche. See annex I for an analysis of the tranches of the Development Account.

Ensure environmental sustainability, and Millennium Development Goal 8, Global partnership for development, were the three most frequently addressed Millennium Development Goals (see figure I below), and were the focus of 16, 14 and 13 projects, respectively. Millennium Development Goal 3, Gender equality, was addressed by five projects, followed by Millennium Development Goal 4, Reduce child mortality, which was the focus of four projects.

Figure I
Millennium Development Goals addressed by projects*



* Multiple counting: many projects address several Millennium Development Goals and are therefore counted under each relevant category of Goal.

Geographic spread of the projects

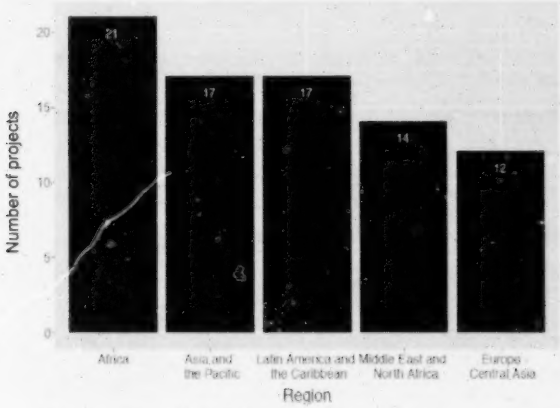
12. Development Account projects support synergies and transfer of knowledge within and between regions and countries all over the world. More than 50 per cent of the sixth tranche projects have adopted an interregional/global scope, including South-South cooperation, while 44 per cent have concentrated efforts in one region or subregion, generally maintaining a multi-country focus (see table 1 below).[3] Efforts were concentrated in Africa (with approximately half of the sixth tranche projects targeting at least one country in this r gion, among others), followed by the Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean regions (each targeting roughly 40 per cent of the total sixth tranche projects, alongside other regions). The Middle East and North Africa was covered by one third of the projects in this tranche, followed closely by Europe-Central Asia (see figure II below). The projects targeted mainly countries with special needs, including post-conflict countries (78 per cent), landlocked developing countries (73 per cent), least developed countries (66 per cent), and small island developing States (41 per cent) (see figure III below).

[3] Projects for the purpose of the present report are classified as "interregional" when activities take place in more than one region; and "global" when activities cover all five regions: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe-Central Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and Middle East and North Africa.

Table 1
Regional/global scope of projects by entity

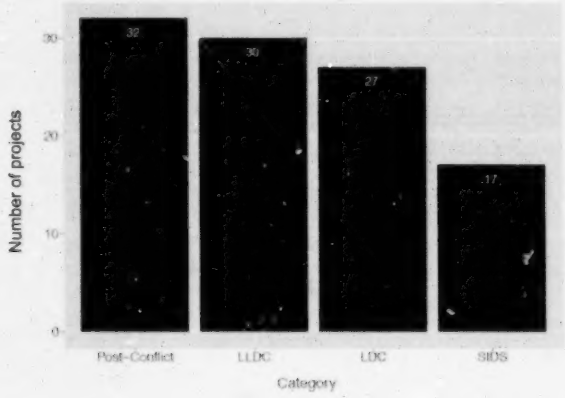
	Regional	*Interregional*	*Global*	*Total*
	Number of projects	*Number of projects*	*Number of projects*	*Number of projects*
Department of Economic and Social Affairs	4	5	1	10
UNCTAD	4	2	1	7
ECLAC	4	1	1	6
ESCAP	2	2	–	4
UNEP	2	1	–	3
UN-Habitat	2	1	–	3
ECA	–	3	–	3
ECE	2	–	1	3
ESCWA	–	2	–	2
UNODC	–	1	–	1
Total	**20**	**18**	**4**	**42**

Figure II
Regions covered by projects*



* Multiple counting: many projects are implemented in several regions and are therefore counted under each relevant category.

Figure III
Types of countries targeted by projects*



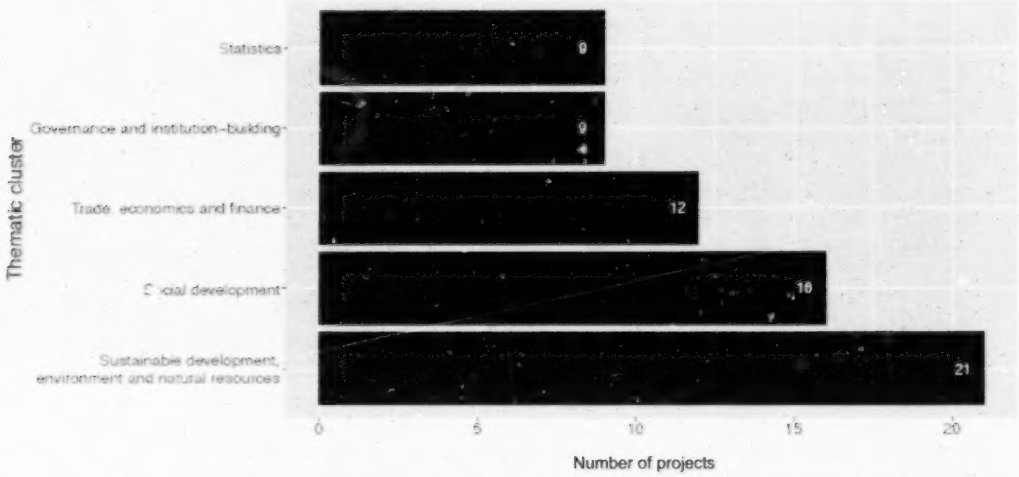
* Multiple counting: many projects are implemented in several types of countries and are therefore counted under each relevant category.

Specific focus of the projects

13. The Development Account capacity-building efforts stretch across an array of different topics and issues which reflect the expertise of the Account's 10 implementing entities, and are guided through the entities' governing bodies, as well as priorities expressed by Member States. The most commonly addressed issues in the sixth tranche were sustainable development, environment and natural resources, representing approximately one half of the projects (see figure IV below). Examples of these projects include building capacities to cope with climate change

(Project AD (2008-2009) UN-Habitat), supporting mechanisms for new and renewable energy projects (Project W (2008-2009) ECA), developing eco-efficient and sustainable urban infrastructure development (Project E (2008-2009) ESCAP) and impacting water quality through integrated water resources management (Project V (2008-2009) ECE). The second most covered theme was social development with 16 projects addressing this area, such as addressing international migration (Project A (2008-2009) ECLAC), eradicating violence against women through local knowledge communities (Project C (2008-2009) ECLAC), and supporting land policy reforms (Project X (2008-2009) ECA). Projects in the field of trade, economics and finance, which included efforts to support the implementation of international standards for commercial agricultural products (Project B (2008-2009) ECE), and strengthening the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises in the tourism sector (Project L (2008-2009) UNCTAD), were also significant in number (12 out of 42 projects). Projects in the field of statistics, such as targeting national statistical offices to measure progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (Project Z (2008-2009) ECLAC), followed, with nine projects covering this area, alongside projects related to governance and institution-building, examples of which included localizing Millennium Development Goals at the urban and municipal levels (Project T (2008-2009) UN-Habitat) and participatory human development (Project AA (2008-2009) ESCWA).

Figure IV
Thematic clusters addressed by projects*



* Multiple counting: many projects address several thematic clusters and are therefore counted under each relevant category.

Project partnerships

14. Partnerships are a key feature of the Development Account and all reviewed projects have indicated the presence of one or more key partners in project implementation. Over 70 per cent of the projects were implemented through international and local partnerships (see figure V below), which is illustrative of the emphasis that the Account places on building local expertise. Partnerships among Development Account implementing entities represented the most common form of

collaboration, with 75 per cent of the reviewed projects indicating that they had implemented the project with another Development Account entity, among others. Alongside other agencies and funds that belong to the broader United Nations system (60 per cent), national non-governmental organizations were also significant stakeholders in the projects reviewed, with approximately two thirds of the projects having national non-governmental organizations as one of their partners. International non-governmental organizations were partners in approximately one third of the projects reviewed, followed by the private sector (20 per cent). The Bretton Woods institutions also played a partnership role, albeit smaller (1 per cent), in the projects reviewed (see figure VI below).

Figure V
Local and international partnerships*

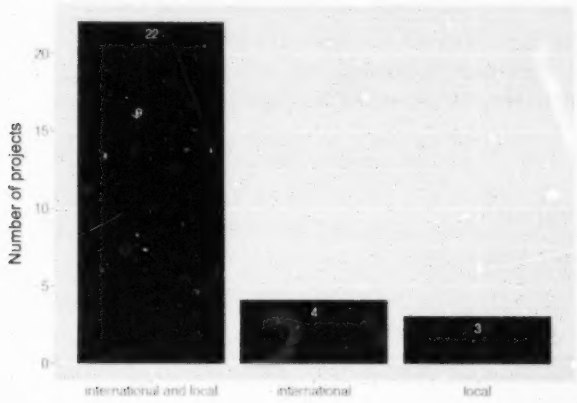
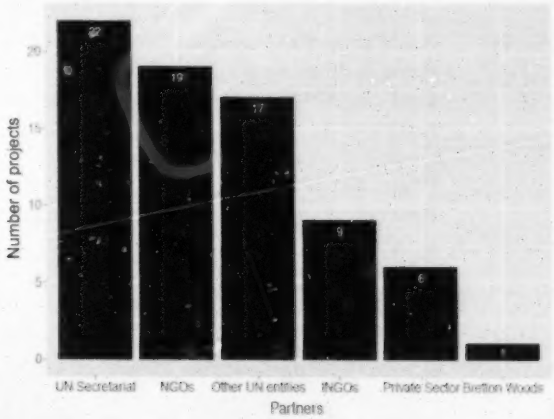


Figure VI
Types of partners in projects*



* Multiple counting: many projects engage with several types of partners and are therefore counted under each relevant category.

15. Collaborative efforts across a wide range of partners are an important means not only of ensuring against duplication of efforts but, equally important, also of allowing for leveraging established expertise, wherever it is available, and for a cross-fertilization of efforts. Sharing experiences across countries and regions is at the very core of the Development Account. The Development Account also encourages South-South cooperation through the use of regional consultants, fellowships, study tours, and cross-regional training, where ministry officials have the opportunity to share experiences and challenges, and to benefit from demonstrated best practices.

Leveraging project funding and initiatives

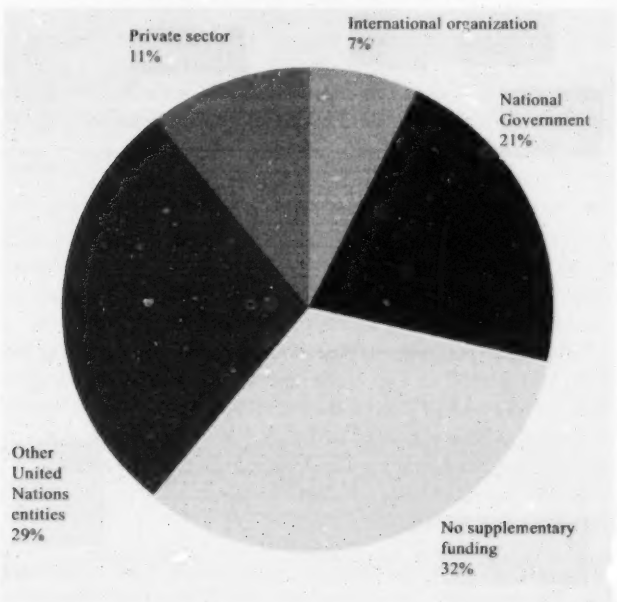
16. The extent to which projects are able to build on partnerships is an important component in their success. Partnerships are significant for leveraging resources available and scaling up the potential impact of projects. For example, projects that start off as a pilot initiative and that are able to attract complementary funds from project partners, can generate additional multiplier effects, leading to scaling-up, follow-up, or expansion of activities to other countries or areas. A project's ability to promote coordination and complementarities with different sources of funds also impacts the sustainability of outcomes, which is often dependent on the ability to secure external support beyond the horizon of the project. For a number of projects,

external funding is a requirement for the continuation of activities to ensure that capacities developed through the project become firmly rooted in national contexts, and spread among practitioners. Along these lines, target countries' willingness to kick-start projects prior to their formal commencement was a key criterion for UNEP's selection of pilot cases for a project on sustainable resource management (Project AK (2006-2007) UNEP).

Supplementary funding

17. The reviewed projects have, overall, been successful in attracting supplementary funding. About two thirds of the projects reviewed indicated that additional assistance had been received (see figure VII below). Supplementary funding originated from an array of sources ranging across international organizations including United Nations entities other than the main Development Account's implementing entities, regional development banks, donor Governments, and in some cases the private sector. Assistance was, moreover, not limited to financial support but was also provided through other means, including facilitating workshop arrangements and providing in-kind contributions for meeting venues, accommodation, personnel time and website resources.

Figure VII
Sources of supplementary funding across projects*



* Multiple counting: many projects feature several sources of supplementary funding and are therefore counted under each relevant category.

18. Development Account's implementing entities have in some cases built momentum through replicating successful outcomes in countries beyond those included in the project's initial plan. Following UNCTAD's support in conducting STIP reviews in Latin America (Project AC (2008-2009) UNCTAD), UNCTAD

received requests for STIP reviews from the Governments of Oman (currently ongoing), Costa Rica and Egypt. In another project, a number of countries that had not been targeted directly by UN-Habitat's capacity-building efforts in coping with climate change in Africa (Project AD (2008-2009) UN-Habitat) embarked on similar activities to promote green building practices and setting up their own national-level Councils.

Supporting sustainability of project results

19. The Development Account's implementing entities often maintain that achieving outcomes that are sustainable in the long run is linked not only to the availability of supplementary funding, but also to the commitment of the beneficiary countries to build on the project's outcomes. Hence, sustainability in the context of the Account's capacity-building efforts also implies a set of endogenous changes at the national level to ensure the stakeholders' ownership of the project outcomes and that these changes are, in turn, internalized in project countries. The Development Account's implementing entities have promoted mechanisms that further sustainability, often acknowledging supplementary financial resources as only a partial component in achieving it. Rather, the political commitment of stakeholders in beneficiary countries is critical for the achievement of sustainable outcomes. UNCTAD has, for instance, emphasized that the promotion of pro-poor, growth-oriented subregional integration in Arab economies is strongly linked to local leadership's ability to influence development policies and, more specifically, to their commitment to utilize trade as an engine of growth (Project N (2008-2009) UNCTAD). Similarly, in strengthening the capacities of countries emerging from conflict to integrate sustainable principles into development strategies, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs highlighted the scenario in Liberia, where priority given to sustainable development in national planning and a political environment conducive to multi-stakeholder collaboration offered opportunities to build on the momentum of the project (Project I (2008-2009) Department of Economic and Social Affairs). Even ECE recognized how political acceptance was crucial in leading the process for improving water and health and bringing it forward in Central-Eastern Europe and the Caucasus (Project AI (2006-2007) ECE). In selecting projects that are developed in response to the demands and needs of the beneficiary countries, the Development Account prioritizes ownership of outcomes, which, in turn, contributes to the likelihood of continuity and follow-up.

20. In addition to the principle of government ownership, the importance of institutional-level change is often highlighted in Development Account projects. The selection of workshop participants is frequently geared towards ensuring that capacity-building is promoted at an institutional rather than at an individual level. The absorptive capacity of participants of training workshops or study visits was highlighted as a key factor in the success of statistical capacity development efforts of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in South-East Asia (Project AF (2006-2007) Department of Economic and Social Affairs). Along these lines, targeting permanent officers, rather than those on limited appointment, and promoting a training-of-trainers approach, were good practices identified in UN-Habitat and ECLAC capacity development efforts in localizing Millennium Development Goals in Latin America and the Caribbean (Project T (2008-2009) UN-Habitat), and enhancing trade competitiveness (Project D (2008-2009) ESCAP), respectively.

21. Additional mechanisms to ensure active government participation include drawing on national focal points to support the project's activities during implementation. In mainstreaming multilateral environmental agreements into national poverty reduction strategies, UNEP, for example, established a number of focal points within the Ministry of Environment and a national network of experts to provide expertise to the project (Project R (2008-2009) UNEP). In supporting the establishment of a survey system to collect and disseminate data on foreign direct investment flows and activities of transnational corporations, national teams were established by UNCTAD in the project country to lead the annual surveys of foreign direct investment and transnational corporations (Project M (2008-2009) UNCTAD). Public awareness and the involvement of civil society are also often key requirements to promote sustainable project outcomes. ECE, for instance, recognized the need to develop further mechanisms for the involvement of civil society as a key condition for the implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health (Project AI (2006-2007) ECE). ESCWA further highlighted how civil society working together with Governments provides the enabling environment required for determining the most appropriate approach to public policy processes during reform and transition to democracy (Project AA (2008-2009) ESCWA).

IV. Managing the Development Account for results

Office of Internal Oversight Services audit of the Development Account

22. In 2011, the Office of Internal Oversight Services conducted an audit of the Development Account. It accorded a satisfactory rating, its highest rating, to the Account's monitoring and reporting-related processes, which included the timely submission of annual progress and final project reports from the implementing entities, and their review by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, noting that this process was working effectively. The report resulted in only one accepted recommendation, namely to establish the terms of reference for the various working mechanisms which supported the Account's operation, including the composition, roles and responsibilities of those mechanisms. Prior to the conclusion of the audit and the issuance of the final audit report in December 2012, the Development Account's Programme Manager had already launched the Development Account Task Team on evaluation and initiated a Development Account Governance and Management Architecture proposal. The Office of Internal Oversight Services was kept informed of these processes, and considered this recommendation as fully implemented.

Task Team on Evaluation

23. In July 2012, the Programme Manager established the Task Team on Evaluation to review the current evaluation mechanisms of the Development Account and to provide recommendations geared towards harmonizing the evaluation functions of the Account. The Task Team was chaired by a senior evaluation specialist from ECA, with an ESCWA expert acting as Co-Chair, and included evaluation experts from ECLAC, ESCAP, UN-Habitat, UNCTAD and UNEP. In establishing the Task Team, the Programme Manager was mindful of past recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions which called for continued improvements to the monitoring and evaluation functions of the Account, through

establishing common standards and feedback mechanisms on project reporting and evaluation.[4] The Task Team was requested to undertake four key assignments: (a) mapping the evaluation practices in place across the Development Account's implementing entities; (b) developing recommendations on the ways to strengthen the evaluation process of the Account; (c) developing a set of guidelines related to evaluation in the context of the Account; and (d) developing a final set of recommendations for the strategic way forward of the Account with respect to evaluation.

Activities of the Task Team

24. Members of the Task Team met through videoconferencing and communicated via electronic means, from September 2012 to May 2013, with secretariat support from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, seeking to deliver one output for each of its tasks. A survey of the evaluation focal points within the implementing entities highlighted the absence of specific evaluation guidance for Development Account projects. Areas which the Task Team felt needed to be addressed included consistency in evaluation processes for Development Account projects across implementing entities, quality assurance of project logical frameworks, incorporation of lessons learned from past evaluations into new project concepts, formalized dissemination of findings through knowledge-sharing platforms and a reasonable budget for evaluation exercises.

25. The preliminary report of the Task Team on how to improve the evaluation function of the Account outlined a set of recommendations for consideration and endorsement by the Development Account Steering Committee,[5] and for subsequent approval by the Programme Manager. The draft recommendations from the preliminary report touched upon a range of issues, including: (a) conducting evaluations on cross-cutting/thematic issues and those projects which were jointly implemented; (b) strengthening monitoring and evaluation requirements in the design of projects; (c) supporting evaluation knowledge and dissemination; and (d) proposing dedicated evaluation capacity for the Development Account. The Task Team also developed evaluation guidelines tailored to assist project managers and evaluation officers in conducting future project evaluations, as well as a proposal that implementing entities provide a management response to the evaluation results and recommendations. The Development Account Evaluation Guidelines and the final report of the Task Team are expected to be submitted to the Development Account Steering Committee at the end of June 2013.

Proposed Development Account Governance and Management Architecture

26. Given the increasing level of complexity of the Account, and the processes involved in ensuring sound project concepts and project documents, a comprehensive proposal on the Development Account Governance and Management Architecture was initiated by the Programme Manager. Overall, the new architecture seeks to

[4] See A/58/7/Add.5, para. 34, and A/66/7, para. XIII.9.

[5] The Steering Committee is composed of five members representing the implementing entities of the Account and other key stakeholders. Current membership includes the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the regional commissions, UNCTAD and UN-Habitat (representing UNEP and UNODC) and the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts. The Committee is chaired by the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

strengthen the Account's governance to enhance inclusiveness, transparency and accountability, while ensuring a timely and effective delivery of capacity development projects which benefit Member States. The architecture describes the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved in the management and governance of the Account, bringing the different elements together, clarifying the links and the dependencies. The architecture proposal also defines streamlined procedures for a more efficient and sound quality-review process of projects by defining major steps for the concept note development process, including initiation, selection and quality control. Specific timelines are outlined for the finalization of project documents so as to support smooth approval processes. The architecture proposal also includes distinct terms of reference for the four key mechanisms of the Account such as: (a) the Development Account Steering Committee; (b) the Quality Assurance Group of the Programme Manager; (c) the Task Team on Evaluation; and (d) the Development Account Network. The architecture will be presented to the Steering Committee at the end of June 2013 for review and endorsement, and subsequently to the Programme Manager for approval.

Growth of the Account

27. As shown in annex I to the present report, the Development Account had approved appropriations in the total amount of $152.9 million as of December 2012. Subject to the anticipated approval of the ninth tranche, the Development Account will add 46 new projects totalling $28.4 million in 2014, with an increased total approved amount of $181.3 million across 302 projects. The Account features 118 ongoing projects that require active management support (see annex II). The current priority of the Programme Manager is to expedite the programming processes for the 52 projects under the eighth tranche and the 46 projects under the ninth tranche, launch the Development Account Network, and implement the recommendations of the Task Team on Evaluation, thereby strengthening the evaluation and lessons learned processes.

Programming of projects

28. During the course of 2012, 12 new projects were programmed in accordance with the guidelines established for the eighth tranche of the Account as a result of the additional $5.6 million approved by the General Assembly (in its resolutions 66/246 and 66/248). In addition, based upon requests by implementing entities and in line with General Assembly resolution 56/237, which stated that funds from underperforming projects may be redeployed to deliver better results, the Programme Manager endorsed the reprogramming of the following projects in response to new and emerging demands from beneficiary countries, and to achieve greater impact and results: (a) ECA is redeploying three projects, Project AM (2008-2009), Project C (2010-2011), and Project Y (2012-2013), to focus on strengthening the capacity of African countries to use mobile technologies to collect data for effective policy and decision-making; (b) the Department of Economic and Social Affairs redeployed Project AD (2010-2011) to focus on strengthening national mutual accountability mechanisms in selected sub-Saharan developing countries for more effective and sustainable development cooperation; and (c) UNCTAD redeployed Project I (2012-2013) to focus on strengthening national capacities to manage policies and frameworks on science, technology and innovation in Asian countries.

V. Conclusions and recommendation

29. The Development Account has been able to remain responsive to a highly evolving development environment, through the unearmarked and predictable nature of its funding, a demand-driven approach that reflects beneficiary countries' priorities and a theme-driven programming for each tranche. By functioning as a bridge between the expertise of United Nations Secretariat entities and locally present development actors who often have a significantly different focus, the Account offers countries a distinctive opportunity to access skills and development knowledge to design and implement strategies and policies towards sustainable, equitable and inclusive development. Its operational profile is further reinforced by the adoption of pilot approaches that test new ideas and eventually scale them up through supplementary funding, and the emphasis on integration of national expertise in the projects to ensure national ownership and sustainability of project outcomes.

30. The Account, which has been active for 15 years, has benefited from continuing improvements in its programming cycle with added emphasis on developing a logical framework which defines the immediate results to be attained from the delivery of the project, and the anticipated change in national policies and processes, which are often achieved after the project's lifecycle. The Board of Auditors, in its related report (A/63/5 (Vol. I), para. 89), referred to the Development Account as a programming model for all of the United Nations technical cooperation activities to follow. In managing the Account, the Programme Manager is mindful to ensure that the Account's solid programming principles are not only fully maintained, but continually strengthened.

31. The finalization of the Development Account Governance and Management Architecture, the formalization of which had been recommended by the Office of Internal Oversight Services audit of the Account in 2012, will promote a shared responsibility between the Programme Manager and the implementing entities in the quality assurance process governing the concept notes and project documents. The institution of a quality assurance process at the level of the implementing entity, which includes a deadline for each step of the review process, is expected to expedite the project approval process, thereby contributing to improved rates of implementation, and fewer requests for project extensions.

32. Through the Development Account Network, the Programme Manager will promote a culture of continuous sharing of project concepts, project documents, evaluation reports and lessons learned. The Network will provide a platform for promoting enhanced cooperation across projects where there are synergies and efficiencies to be achieved. The Network will additionally provide a platform for testing new ideas to improve the impact and results of the Account. To support the Network, improvements to the Development Account website will be initiated, with both an external portal for Member States, and an internal portal for sharing of working documents.

33. Looking ahead, the Programme Manager is committed to further strengthening evaluation and pursue the recommendations of the Task Team on Evaluation, with the expectation that evaluation outcomes will factor directly back into the selection of projects and programming cycle. In late 2012 the

Programme Manager was able to strengthen the Account's evaluation function through the recruitment of a dedicated evaluation officer funded through the Junior Professional Officer programme. As this position will cease in 2014, new arrangements will be required to support the Account's evaluation function on a long-term basis at a more senior level. The Development Account also expects to consider, in the context of the next tranche, various options for moving forward with a programmatic approach, to ensure the most effective use of funds and to maximize the impact at the country level. In the face of the evolving global socioeconomic developments, the Secretariat stands ready to continue to provide effective support to the Account for the benefit of developing Member States.

34. **The General Assembly may wish to take note of the present report.**

Annex I

Summary of Development Account tranches as at 30 April 2013

Biennium	*Theme*	*Tranche*	*Approved (thousands of United States dollars)*	*General Assembly resolution*	*Total number of projects*	*Number of active projects*	*Implementation period*	*Status as at 30 April 2013 (percentage)*
1998-1999	Support for the implementation of global conferences	1	13 065.00	53/220 A and B	7	–	–	Closed
2000-2001	Networking and regional and subregional expertise	2	13 065.00	54/249	16	–	–	Closed
2002-2003	Capacity-building for managing globalization	3	13 065.00	56/254 A	20	–	–	Closed
2004-2005	Capacity-building for Millennium Development Goals through partnerships, knowledge-management and taking advantage of information and communications technologies	4	13 065.00	58/270	23	–	–	Closed
2006-2007	Supporting progress towards the internationally agreed development goals, through knowledge-management, networking and partnerships	5	13 065.00	60/247	24	–	–	Closed
		5A	3 415.90	61/252 and 60/246	6	–	–	Closed
		5B	5 071.00	62/235	10	–	–	Closed
2008-2009	Supporting progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, through innovation, networking and knowledge-management	6	16 480.90	62/237	27	–	–	Closed
		6A	2 170.40	62/236, 62/237 and 62/238	5	–	–	Closed
		6B	7 500.00	64/242	15	15	2010-2013	28
2010-2011	Support to addressing key global development challenges to further the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, through collaboration at the global, regional and national levels	7	18 651.30	64/243 and 64/244	28	28	2010-2013	55
		7A	4 000.00	Residual balances from tranches 1-4	12	12	2010-2013	54
		7B	5 000.00	64/243 and 64/244	11	11	2010-2013	42
2012-2013	Supporting Member States to accelerate progress towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in the context of the multiple and interrelated development challenges	8	23 651.30	66/248	40	40	2012-2015	6
		8A	5 591.90	66/248	12	12	2012-2015	3
Total approved			**152 857.7***		**256**	**118**		
2014-2015	Supporting Member States in designing and implementing strategies and policies towards sustainable, equitable and inclusive development	9	28 398.80	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 (A/68/6 (Sect. 35))	46	–	2014-2017	–
Grand total			**181 256.50***		**302**	**118**		

* Excludes $4,000,000, representing the residual balance from tranches 1 to 4 that were programmed in the context of the seventh tranche.

Annex II

Update on the status of the sixth, seventh and eighth tranches: implementation rates

Table A.1

Projects funded from section 35, Development Account, of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (sixth tranche-B) as at 30 April 2013

	Project title	*Implementing entity*	*Approved (A)*	*Expenditures (B)*	*Implementation rate (percentage)*
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		*[(B)/(A)]*100*
AG	Strengthening macroeconomics and social policy coherence through integrated micro-macro modelling	DESA	590.0	377.8	64
AH	Building capacity of Governments and NGOs to promote implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa	DESA	474.0	60.6	13
AI	Strengthening capacity of national tax administrations of developing countries in Latin America to reduce tax transaction costs	DESA	526.0	406.2	77
AJ	Supporting finance and planning authorities to formulate and implement macroeconomic policies	DESA	514.0	170.4	33
AK	Retooling global development: strengthening coherence and coordination of development policies	DESA	345.0	82.7	24
AL	Interregional cooperation on the use of data on informal sector and informal employment in national accounts	ECA	800.0	–	–
AM	Capacity-building of government officials in management of public-private partnerships for improved service delivery and infrastructure development in Africa[a]	ECA	550.0	–	–
AN	Building the capacity of countries of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia to adopt and apply innovative green technologies for climate change adaptation	ECE	548.0	129.3	24
AO	Strengthening the capacity of government officials to adapt to possible scenarios of disasters associated with extreme events: analysis for adaptation and disaster risk reduction policies	ECLAC	302.0	58.6	19
AP	Capacity-building of control authorities and transport operators to improve efficiency of cross-border transport in landlocked and transit developing countries	ESCAP	533.0	345.4	65
AQ	Strengthening South-South Cooperation to increase the affordability of sustainable energy options in Asia and the Pacific	ESCAP	541.0	58.4	11
AR	Strengthening capacities for policy-oriented analysis of key global development challenges at developing country universities	UNCTAD	493.0	166.5	34
AS	Strengthening the capacity of policymakers and business leaders in three biotrade beneficiary countries in integrating REDD+ projects into biotrade strategies	UNCTAD	348.0	6.2	2

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage)
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		[(B)/(A)]*100
AT	Strengthening the capacity of the rural communities in least developed countries to utilize the market access opportunities provided by duty free quota free and enhancing value-added of their traditional products	UNCTAD	496.0	84.5	17
AU	Building statistical capacity to monitor the Millennium Development Goal Slum Target in the context of natural disasters and housing crisis in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean	UN-Habitat	440.0	127.6	29
	Total (sixth tranche-B)		**7 500.0**	**2 074.2**	**28**

Abbreviations: ESCAP, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; ESCWA, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; ECE, Economic Commission for Europe; ECLAC, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; ECA, Economic Commission for Africa; UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; UNEP, United Nations Environment Programme; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

[a] Redeployed for a project on strengthening the capacity of African countries to use mobile technologies to collect data for effective policy- and decision-making (see para. 28 of the report).

Table A.2

Projects funded from section 35, Development Account, of the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011 (seventh tranche) as at 30 April 2013

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage)
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		[(B)/(A)]*100
A	Facilitating effective integration of developing countries in the global economy through aid for trade schemes	ECA	975.3	683.5	70
B	Mainstreaming climate change into agricultural policies for achieving food security and poverty reduction in West Africa	ECA	637.5	–	–
C	Capacity-building for integrated shared water resources management in Southern Africa[b]	ECA	606.8	–	–
D	Mitigating climate change through attracting foreign direct investment in advanced fossil fuel technologies	ECE	629.9	593.9	94
E	Facilitating climate change adaptation in transport through addressing the energy-environment linkage	ECE	738.0	563.1	76
F	Improving quantification of women's unpaid work in support of poverty eradication policies	ECLAC	568.0	433.1	76
G	Improving management of resource allocation for environment in Latin America and the Caribbean	ECLAC	554.5	183.2	33

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage)
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		[(B)/(A)]*100
H	Strengthening national statistical and inter-institutional capacities for monitoring the Millennium Development Goals through interregional cooperation and knowledge-sharing	ECLAC	1 192.0	967.0	81
I	Improving disaster risk preparedness in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Region	ESCAP	621.9	257.5	41
J	Enhancing energy security and improving access to energy services through development of public-private renewable energy partnerships	ESCAP	1 006.5	863.0	86
K	Strengthening social protection in Asia and the Pacific	ESCAP	749.4	496.6	66
L	Capacity-building on climate change mitigation for poverty alleviation in Western Asia	ESCWA	547.2	177.7	32
M	Strengthening capacities in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia region to negotiate bilateral investment treaties	ESCWA	502.2	285.5	57
N	Improving criminal justice responses to trafficking in persons in South-Eastern Europe with special focus on the Republic of Moldova	UNODC	499.6	15.3	3
O	Strengthening capacities in developing countries for the effective enforcement of competition law to minimize constraints to economic productivity	UNCTAD	617.7	444.3	72
P	Addressing the impact and implications of the global financial crisis on developing countries through support to services sector development	UNCTAD	653.0	210.5	32
Q	Enhancing capacities of developing countries to mainstream gender in trade policy	UNCTAD	621.9	363.8	58
R	Strengthening capacity for effective asset and liability management in national debt management offices	UNCTAD	663.4	257.9	39
S	Integration of the trade dimension in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework	UNCTAD	534.8	364.2	68
T	Building the capacity of customs officers to prevent illegal trade in environmentally sensitive commodities through the Green Customs Initiative	UNEP	669.6	620.1	93
U	Capacity-building in national planning for sustainable food production	UNEP	710.0	254.0	36
V	Enhancing the contribution of local authorities and their partners towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals through building the capacity of local government training institutes	UN-Habitat	687.2	477.6	69
W	Strengthening regional knowledge networks to promote the effective implementation of the United Nations development agenda and to assess progress	DESA	526.3	477.3	91
X	Contributing to the achievement of Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals in Africa through strengthening public sector human resources management capacities	DESA	695.5	546.6	79
Y	Supporting the establishment of a Latin American Parliamentary Knowledge Network	DESA	407.3	221.9	54

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage)
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		[(B)/(A)]*100
Z	Strengthening national capacities to adapt to climate change through improving management of water variability and other climate-driven changes in Africa	DESA	697.6	–	–
AA	Strengthening national reporting in support of the implementation of the Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests	DESA	527.6	341.7	65
AB	Enhancing key statistics and indicators to monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals	DESA	810.6	203.6	25
Total (seventh tranche)			**18 651.3**	**10 302.9**	**55**
AC	Strengthening capacity of national policy analysts in the social and economic sectors of developing countries in the production and use of National Transfer Accounts	DESA	306.0	253.3	83
AD	Strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations to promote the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolutions and the United Nations agenda at the country level[c]	DESA	314.0	–	–
AE	Strengthening capacities of African policymakers to mainstream natural disaster risk reduction into national and regional development policies and strategies in Africa	ECA	402.0	16.0	4
AF	Strengthening capacity in mitigating the impact of the financial crisis and sustaining dynamism and inclusive development in Asia and the Pacific	ESCAP	425.0	215.4	51
AG	Strengthening statistical capacity of countries with economies in transition to assess progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goal on environmental sustainability, and provide data on environmental vulnerabilities	ECE	391.0	244.8	63
AH	Improving poverty measurement: building national statistical capacity in Caribbean countries to estimate Purchasing Power Parities	ECLAC	401.0	366.1	91
AI	Strengthening national capacities of policymakers in the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia to formulate national youth policies and plans of action: responding to the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY)	ESCWA	379.0	153.8	41
AJ	Enhancing the capacities of landlocked developing countries to attract foreign direct investment for the development and modernization of productive capacities	UNCTAD	351.0	127.5	36
AK	International cooperation to develop a global monitoring system in national investment policies	UNCTAD	349.0	216.1	62
AL	Strengthening regional and national processes for formulating and implementing sustainable energy strategies that contribute the most to greenhouse gas emission reduction	UNEP	270.0	260.2	96
AM	Strengthening statistical capacity for crime prevention in Asia	UNODC	207.0	99.7	48

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage)
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		[(B)/(A)]*100
AN	Capacity development for cities in Asia and the Pacific to increase resilience to climate change impacts	UN-Habitat	205.0	205.0	100
Total (seventh tranche-A)			**4 000.0**	**2 157.9**	**54**
AO	Strengthening the capacity of developing and transition economies to link to global supply chains through the reduction of trade obstacles	ECE	452.0	224.7	50
AP	Strengthening national capacities of export sectors in Latin America and the Caribbean to meet the challenges of climate change	ECLAC	605.0	345.5	57
AQ	Strengthening government and civil society capacity to incorporate economic and social rights into macroeconomic policy	ECLAC	393.0	106.9	27
AR	Developing a regional financial and monetary architecture in Asia and the Pacific in support of global financial reforms	ESCAP	526.0	2.7	1
AS	Strengthening national capacities in the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in developing green production sectors	ESCWA	491.0	260.1	53
AT	Regional project for strengthening statistical capacity for the ESCWA countries in energy statistics and energy balance	ESCWA	509.0	200.1	39
AU	Strengthening capacities of developing countries in Africa and Asia to support their effective participation in negotiating bilateral, regional and multilateral trade facilitation arrangements	UNCTAD	477.0	239.1	50
AV	Enhancing national ownership of trade-related assistance in United Nations country-level development plans	UNCTAD	311.0	154.4	50
AW	Integrating environmental sustainability in the UNDAFs and United Nations common country programming processes	UNEP	500.0	353.8	71
AX	Strengthening national capacities in India and Bangladesh for integration of sustainable building practices in social housing programmes	UNEP	375.0	61.2	16
AY	Promoting rule of law and governance in the criminal justice system in Liberia	UNODC	361.0	133.6	37
Total (seventh tranche-B)			**5 000.0**	**2 082.1**	**42**

Abbreviations: ESCAP, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; ESCWA, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; ECE, Economic Commission for Europe; ECLAC, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; ECA, Economic Commission for Africa; UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; UNEP, United Nations Environment Programme; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

[b] Redeployed for a project on strengthening the capacity of African countries to use mobile technologies to collect data for effective policy and decision-making (see para. 28 of the report).

[c] Redeployed for a project on strengthening national mutual accountability mechanisms in selected sub-Saharan developing countries for more effective and sustainable development cooperation (see para. 28 of the report).

Table A.3
Projects funded from section 35, Development Account, of the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 (eighth tranche) as at 30 April 2013

	Project title	*Implementing entity*	*Approved (A)*	*Expenditures (B)*	*Implementation rate (percentage)*
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		*[(B)/(A)]*100*
A	Capacity-building for removing constraints in utilizing international support measures for least developed countries	DESA	670.0	15.5	2
B	Strengthening capacities of the public sector in least developed countries to deliver quality services equitably through the transfer and adaptation of innovative practices	DESA	640.3	44.5	7
C	Strengthening national capacities of conflict-affected countries to manage water scarcity and droughts	DESA	570.0	71.6	13
D	Developing country profiles' low carbon technologies for resilient green economies in small island developing States	DESA	650.0	–	–
E	Climate change financing for forests: reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation — plus (REDD+) and its impacts on financing for other functions of forests worldwide	DESA	600.0	–	–
F	Fostering private-public partnerships and strengthening national capacities for designing, implementing and evaluating development-oriented macroeconomic policy to generate employment, growth and poverty reduction	DESA	400.0	–	–
G	Measuring the green economy in support of the Development Goals: statistical frameworks, indicators, and instruments	DESA	800.0	–	–
H	Strengthening geospatial information management capacities of Member States in development decision-making	DESA	400.0	59.1	15
I	Supporting small island developing States in their efforts to build economic resilience[d]	UNCTAD	397.0	21.2	5
J	Accelerating progress of selected West African countries towards the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, particularly Millennium Development Goal 8, through trade-related training and capacity-building	UNCTAD	577.0	33.7	6
K	Capacity-building for the formulation and implementation of Millennium Development Goal-oriented trade policies in developing countries contributing to accelerating achievement of Millennium Development Goals in the context of multiple and interrelated development challenges	UNCTAD	694.0	12.7	2
L	Addressing the impact of trade and trade agreements on employment in developing countries	UNCTAD	232.0	28.0	12
M	Strengthening of capacities of trade and planning ministries of selected least developed countries on developing and implementing trade strategies that are conducive to poverty reduction	UNCTAD	641.0	36.3	6

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage)
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		[(B)/(A)]*100
N	Building national capacities for promoting foreign direct investment in green and other growth sectors	UNCTAD	461.0	–	–
O	Promoting sustainable business models for development: investing in the poor, for the poor and with the poor	UNCTAD	462.0	–	–
P	Strengthening macroeconomic management capacities for regional and interregional monetary and financial cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean and West and Central Africa	UNCTAD	555.0	–	–
Q	Mainstreaming ecosystem service into countries' sectoral and macroeconomic policies and programmes	UNEP	542.0	–	–
R	Integrating environmental sustainability in the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and the United Nations common country programming process	UNEP	541.0	–	–
S	Development of a review system for the effective national implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements	UNEP	543.0	–	–
T	Strengthening the capacities of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) member States to address the land and property issues of internally displaced persons and refugees, with a specific emphasis on women's land and property rights	UN-Habitat	452.0	–	–
U	Strengthening capacity of policymakers in South-East Asia for promoting policies and developing plans for improved wastewater treatment and reuse in urban and peri-urban areas	UN-Habitat	348.0	–	–
V	Enhancing the coordination and support of UNODC involvement in the CCA/UNDAF process in view of the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals	UNODC	650.0	–	–
W	Strengthening the capacity of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems in Member States to produce continuous and reliable indicators for measuring progress on the development agenda	ECA	682.0	–	–
X	Strengthening capacity of African countries to promote the use of renewable energy to achieve sustainable development	ECA	703.0	–	–
Y	Capacity-building for risk and disaster management in Africa[r]	ECA	689.0	–	–
Z	Strengthening capacities for the development of regional agricultural value chains in Africa	ECA	499.0	–	–
AA	Strengthening the capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to facilitate legitimate border crossing, regional cooperation and integration	ECE	750.0	–	–
AB	Promoting energy efficiency investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development	ECE	1 250.0	871.0	70

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage)
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		[(B)/(A)]*100
AC	Strengthening public policies in Latin America and the Caribbean to promote the international insertion of small and medium-sized enterprises as a vehicle to reduce their productivity gap	ECLAC	575.0	–	–
AD	Towards a low-carbon economy: policy options for energy efficiency and innovation	ECLAC	478.0	141.8	30
AE	Time for equality: strengthening the institutional framework of social policies	ECLAC	661.0	–	–
AF	Strengthening the capacities of selected Latin American and Asian countries to develop and improve training systems and to protect workers against unemployment	ECLAC	754.5	–	–
AG	Strengthening information and communications technology capacities for disaster risk reduction and development: addressing information, knowledge and policy gaps in Asia	ESCAP	600.6	–	–
AH	Strengthening capacities in countries with special needs on designing and implementing economic and social development policies to accelerate progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals	ESCAP	643.5	–	–
AI	Interregional cooperation to strengthen national capacities to measure progress in achieving gender equality and women's empowerment	ESCAP	686.4	–	–
AJ	Deepening regional connectivity: strengthening capacities of Asian developing countries to increase intraregional trade by implementing paperless trade and transport facilitation systems	ESCAP	854.0	96.5	11
AK	Institutional and capacity-building project for Arab parliaments and other stakeholders for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security	ESCWA	510.0	–	–
AL	Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders in the ESCWA Region	ESCWA	509.0	16.0	3
AM	Developing the capacities of the Arab countries for climate change adaptation by applying integrated water resource management tools	ESCWA	517.0	–	–
AN	Strengthening capacities to utilize workers' remittances in financing for development	ESCWA	464.0	–	–
	Total (eighth tranche)		**23 651.3**	**1 447.9**	**6**
AO	Building capacity for E-PARTICIPATION in support of accelerated progress towards the internationally agreed development goals including the Millennium Development Goals	DESA	362.9	–	–
AP	Supporting Governments transiting to low-carbon development — Carrying forward the post-2015 Development Agenda and Rio+20	DESA	380.0	–	–
AQ	Supporting national dialogues on the Post-2015 Development Agenda in the context of the Annual Ministerial Review	DESA	375.0	–	–

	Project title	*Implementing entity*	*Approved (A)*	*Expenditures (B)*	*Implementation rate (percentage)*
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		*[(B)/(A)]*100*
AR	Strengthening capacities of African countries in boosting intra-African trade	UNCTAD	500.0	–	–
AS	Capacity-building for science, technology and innovation policy management in developing countries	UNCTAD	400.0	–	–
AT	Promoting microcatchment planning and replicable low-cost green investment strategies to improve urban drinking water supply in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Central Africa	UNEP	390.0	–	–
AU	Increase Pacific small island developing States cities' resilience to climate change impacts	UN-Habitat	382.0	178.8	47
AV	Capacity-building on agri-business for women to enhance food security in Eastern Africa	ECA	520.0	–	–
AQ	Sustainable forest management for greener economies in the Caucasus and Central Asia	ECE	500.0	–	–
AX	Strengthening the capacity of national Governments to promote the social inclusion of youth within a context of increasing violence and insecurity, through innovative programmes and evidence-based policies	ECLAC	500.0	–	–
AY	Building capacity and facilitating private sector involvement for infrastructure provision in less developed countries	ESCAP	691.0	–	–
AZ	Building capacities in developing appropriate green technologies for improving the livelihood of rural communities in the ESCWA region	ESCWA	591.0	–	–
	Total (eighth tranche-A)		**5 591.9**	**178.8**	**3**

Abbreviations: ESCAP, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; ESCWA, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; ECE, Economic Commission for Europe; ECLAC, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; ECA, Economic Commission for Africa; UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; UNEP, United Nations Environment Programme; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme.